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1-21 May 1952

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**ALGERIA. 14 May**—Messali Hadj, leader of the Algerian nationalist party known as the Movement for the Triumph of Democratic Liberties, was arrested in Orleansville where his presence had provoked riots earlier in the day. Two persons were killed in the riots and several injured when police fired on the crowd in self-defence.

**ARGENTINA. 21 May**—Antarctica. Gen. Perón presented the Peronista medal to members of the 1951 scientific expedition to the Antarctic. He declared that Argentina would defend her rights in the Antarctic and not discuss them, and that only Argentina and Chile had rights there.

**AUSTRALIA. 4 May**—Works Programme. It was learned that at a meeting of the Loan Council the States' Premiers had outvoted the Commonwealth Government by 6 votes to 2 in approving a measure to enlarge the loan for the 1952-3 works programme to £A247,500,000 and defeating Commonwealth proposals to cut the borrowing programme to a minimum of £A180 m. Mr Menzies, Prime Minister, firmly refused to increase the Commonwealth offer of a special subscription of £A125 m. from revenue to the next year's loans. Sir Arthur Fadden, Treasurer, told the Premiers the Commonwealth would not accept responsibility for the £A247·5 m. programme. After the meeting he accused the Premiers of lack of responsibility in refusing to face the problem of inflation. He said that, faced with lack of public support for Government loans, they had demanded that the Commonwealth should drastically increase taxation or embark upon the wholesale issue of central bank credit.

**5 May**—Broadcasting on the Loan Council's meeting, Mr Menzies said that the Government would not be stampeded into accepting financial policies which would increase taxation or impede the restoration of economic stability. He urged his listeners to accept with reserve the Premiers' declarations that they would have to make wholesale dismissals of State employees if they failed to get the loan money they demanded, and he said that even if some people had to leave Government employment they would not necessarily remain unemployed: the basic industries were crying out for men and the Government would always be alert to deal with unemployment. The Government had acted in the people's interest in resisting inflationary methods of finding money for public works, and its anti-inflationary measures should be continued because once prices and costs were stabilized, there would be confidence in the currency, the loan market would recover, and rural industries would be in an immeasurably sounder position. If a works programme of £A247·5 m. was to be achieved, Mr Menzies continued, loans would have to reach £A120 m., whereas the Government believed they might not exceed £A50 m. They hoped the £A120 m. would be reached, but it was up to every Australian to invest his savings.

**6 May**—Economic Policy. Reviewing the Government's economic policy in the House of Representatives, Sir Arthur Fadden said that austerity in imports would be intensified during the following twelve

months. There could be no thought of abandoning effective anti-inflation measures until a balanced economy and the halting of inflation were in sight. He said there were many encouraging trends: the rate of increase in both retail and wholesale prices had slowed down, and supplies of some basic materials had improved during the past six months. He gave a warning that the Commonwealth Bank and the Capital Issues Board would not allow any indiscriminate extension of secondary industry, superficially encouraged by import restrictions.

**8 May**—An Opposition motion of no confidence in the Government's economic policy was defeated by 58 votes to 42. Mr Menzies, Prime Minister, in defending the restrictions on imports from the United Kingdom, said that if Australia had prohibited all non-sterling imports she could not have achieved a trade balance, and she could not offend such wool customers as France and Italy with whom she had a favourable balance.

**9 May**—**Dollar Import Restrictions.** The Minister for Trade and Customs announced the Government's decision to reduce expenditure on dollar imports by 20 per cent for the quarter ended 31 March, import licences for which had been recalled on 21 March.

**14 May**—Mr Menzies left by air for the United States.

**16 May**—**Japan.** It was announced that in accordance with the Government's restricted import policy, imports from Japan would be halved.

**19 May**—**Strikes.** Dock workers decided at 'stop work' meetings to continue the ban on overtime in defiance of the Arbitration Court's order to end the ban. The tally clerks in Sydney harbour struck for twenty-four hours against official control of ballots in their union imposed by the Arbitration Court.

**21 May**—**U.K.-Australian Meat Agreement.** The Minister for Commerce and Agriculture tabled in the House of Representatives a fifteen-year agreement, to be operative from 1 July 1952, for the sale of surplus meat to the United Kingdom. The agreement specified that both countries would seek to develop meat production in Australia and to increase meat exports. Britain undertook to provide a satisfactory market for the whole of Australia's exportable surplus. The prices schedule would be reviewed annually not later than 31 July and would in no year be lower than the 1950-1 schedule.

Mr Menzies' discussions in Washington on a Pacific Defence Council (see *United States*).

**AUSTRIA. 7 May**—Visit of Chancellor to London.

**9 May**—Chancellor's request for alleviation by Britain of occupation costs (see *Great Britain*).

Western Powers' Notes of reminder to Russia *re* their peace treaty proposal (see *U.S.S.R.*).

**11 May**—Chancellor's visit to United States (see *United States*).

**BRITISH HONDURAS. 1 May**—Approval of second stage of development plan (see *Great Britain*).

**BRITISH WEST AFRICA. 4 May—Gold Coast.** Crowds estimated at several thousands attended the inaugural meeting at Accra of a new opposition party—the Ghana Congress Party—which had the support of the United Gold Coast Convention and the National Democratic Party. The chairman was Mr Nikoi, former deputy chairman of the Convention People's Party, and the speakers included former members of the C.P.P. Executive. Speakers accused the Government of inefficiency, wastefulness, and of voting excessive salaries for members of the Assembly. Incidents occurred when C.P.P. supporters interrupted the meeting, and the police made eight arrests.

**19 May—Nigeria.** About sixty to one hundred African command workshop troops armed with sticks and crowbars attacked officers and N.C.O.s at Yaba barracks because of their opposition to an order to move from civilian quarters into barracks. Three persons were injured, and the offices were looted and a fire started in the quartermaster's store. After order had been restored by an infantry detachment, about seventy soldiers were arrested.

**BRITISH WEST INDIES. 5 May—Trinidad.** The Legislature passed a resolution approving proposals for a British Caribbean customs union.

**BULGARIA. 12 May—Revaluation.** The Government revalued the currency, issuing one new lev to 100 old. The value of the new lev was fixed at .70 for one rouble.

Simultaneously the rationing system was abolished and prices for foodstuffs lowered.

**BURMA. 18 May.**—It was announced that Government forces had recaptured fifty villages from the Karen rebels in the past four days.

**CANADA. 20 May—Bank Credit.** It was learned that the Bank of Canada had informed the chartered banks that the special policies of credit restraint initiated in February 1951 could be suspended except in the case of bank loans secured by corporation shares, where the existing arrangements requiring a 50 per cent margin should remain unchanged.

**CENTRAL AFRICA. Corrigendum.**—The entry in No. 9 dated 18 April and headed *Rhodesia: The Budget* should have been headed *Southern Rhodesia*.

**2 May—Southern Rhodesia: Immigration.** New geographical quotas for immigrants were introduced, according to which the 2,700 admitted each quarter would consist of: 1,140 from the United Kingdom and Ireland; 1,150 from South Africa; 150 from other African territories; 90 from elsewhere. The maximum number of aliens would be 180.

**5 May—Conference on Central African Federation, q.v.**

**CEYLON. 20 May—Trincomalee.** Commenting on misrepresentations that were being made for political purposes about the use of

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Trincomalee by the British Navy, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Home Minister, declared that the Ceylon Navy would occupy Trincomalee as soon as it was sufficiently developed to take over the island's sea defences. He was sure the British Government concurred with 'this hope'. He said further that when the Ceylon Air Force was fully developed and able to defend Ceylon, there would be no need for the British Air Force to remain in Ceylon.

**CHINA. 5 May**—Charges against Peking regime of increasing illicit traffic in drugs (see *United Nations, Narcotics Commission*).

**6 May—Japan.** Mr Chou-En-Lai, Foreign Minister, denounced the Japanese peace treaty in strong terms in a broadcast from Peking.

**11 May—Hong Kong.** The Foreign Ministry issued a statement protesting against the suspension of the leading Communist paper in Hong Kong, *Ta Kung Pao* (see *Hong Kong*). The statement also accused the Hong Kong Government of oppressing the Chinese on the island.

**19 May—Great Britain.** A Note was received from the British Government announcing the decision of British firms to close down in China. The Note expressed the hope that the firms would not be hindered from winding up their affairs and that a continuation of trade with China would be possible through an association which the firms intended setting up.

**20 May**—Statement by Mr Eden on closure of British firms (see *Great Britain*).

#### CONFERENCE ON CENTRAL AFRICAN FEDERATION. 5 May—

The conference ended, and a communiqué was issued which announced that agreement had been reached on a draft constitutional scheme (which would be published as a White Paper) for the federation of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland. The conference had agreed on all important matters of principle, including the setting-up of a Federal legislature and executive; the maintenance of the protectorate status of the two northern territories and of the self-governing status of Southern Rhodesia within the federation; the composition of the federal assembly (including two elected Africans from each territory); the division of powers between the federal and territorial governments; the financial implications of federation; the appointment and functions of a statutory African affairs board; and the establishment of a Federal Supreme Court and the procedure for amending the federal constitution. The draft scheme also gave effect to earlier assurances regarding African land rights.

It was decided to appoint fiscal, judicial, and public service commissions to fill in the details of the draft constitution, and to call another conference as soon as the commission's reports should be ready—which it was hoped would be in the last quarter of 1952.

The conference regretted the absence of African representatives from the two northern territories and paid tribute to the contributions of the African delegates from Southern Rhodesia.

**7 May**—Following an interview between the Colonial Secretary and

**Conference on Central African Federation (continued)**

the Northern Rhodesian African delegates, the latter issued a statement in which they declared that nothing which the Secretary of State had said had in any way diminished their unanimous opposition to the plan. On the contrary, their fears had 'been increased by our failure to secure any assurance from the Secretary of State that federation will not be imposed against the wishes of the African people'. Any such imposition would be inevitably resisted by Africans.

**DENMARK. 6 May—Defence.** Opening a debate on foreign affairs, Herr Kraft, Foreign Minister, said that Denmark had undertaken to spend 2,650 m. kroner (£132 m.) during the coming three years on reconditioning her defence in connection with the introduction of eighteen months' military service. Denmark had also undertaken to spend £6 m. on the N.A.T.O. 'infra-structure' programme for the development of the joint use of airfields in war.

**South Schleswig.** Herr Kraft said that vigorous and unjustified attacks had recently been directed by certain German circles against Danish activities in South Schleswig, throwing suspicion on the Danish Government's attitude. Denmark had not claimed any revision of the frontier in 1946, but she maintained the right of self-determination and had rejoiced when the constitutional court at Karlsruhe had rescinded the provision of the electoral law of the *Land* of Schleswig-Holstein that only parties with 7·5 per cent of the total votes in the *Land* should have the right to a share of the seats filled by proportional representation.

**EGYPT. 1 May—Great Britain.** Sir Ralph Stevenson, the British Ambassador, arrived back in Cairo from the London talks.

**Cairo Riots.** The British Minister submitted to the Foreign Minister a claim for £E1·5 m. for damage to British property during the Cairo riots of 26 January, and also claims for £E200,000 for the deaths of nine British subjects and for \$100,000 for the death of Mr McLeod Boyer, the Canadian trade commissioner. He also raised the question of indemnity for British officials dismissed by the Egyptian Government in December 1951.

**2 May**—Leave for British troops was allowed again after being suspended for six months.

**3 May**—Sir Ralph Stevenson called on the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and gave them a message from Mr Eden, British Foreign Secretary, and an account of the London talks.

**6 May**—In a broadcast to the nation, Hilaly Pasha, Prime Minister, declared that, to obtain recognition of her rights—evacuation and unity of the Nile valley—Egypt must demand them with tenacity and firmness. 'The situation,' he said, 'has reached its most critical point and its *dénouement* is imminent.'

**17 May—Cotton.** In order to end stagnation in the cotton market, the Government suspended the cotton export tax until 31 August, after which date the tax would be levied at reduced rates.

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**18 May—Sudan.** It was announced that Saiyid Sir Abd ur-Rahman al-Mahdi Pasha, leader of the independence movement in the Sudan and father of Sayid Siddiq al-Mahdi, the president of the Umma Party, had accepted an invitation from the Prime Minister to send a delegation to Cairo to explain his views.

**19 May—Relaxation of Suez Canal restrictions on ships travelling to Israel** (*see Israel*).

**20 May—Oral reply to British proposals** (*see Great Britain*).

**EUROPEAN DEFENCE COMMUNITY. 6 May—N.A.T.O. Council** approval of reciprocal guarantee to E.D.C. (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

**9 May—**The draft of the treaty setting up the E.D.C. was initialled in Paris by the heads of the delegations of the six participant countries (France, Belgium, Federal Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands). The texts comprised: the treaty proper, a secret military protocol (laying down the number of land, sea, and air effectives to be provided by each country), a financial protocol, a protocol concerning mutual assistance undertakings between E.D.C. and N.A.T.O. member States, and a treaty between the United Kingdom and the members of E.D.C. The treaty provided for a common administrative and military authority for national defence, a common budget, a common uniform, an identical period of military service, and a common military code. (Those States with responsibility for overseas territories had also the right to maintain forces for their defence and internal order.)

The institutions to be established comprised: a Court of Justice; a Council of Ministers (to be essentially an organ of liaison with, and controlled by, the Governments); an Assembly (to be an organ of control, notably budgetary control, by directly or indirectly elected representatives of the six peoples); and a supra-national executive Board of nine commissioners (to be renewed by one-third every three years).

The function of the Council of Ministers would be to give general instructions and to preserve the interests of individual members. Decisions would usually be taken by majority vote, but unanimity would be required in some cases, e.g. for any alteration of the Statute. The Board of Commissioners would be responsible for organization and mobilization, a uniform system of training and equipment (but not recruitment), and the appointment of officers—in the lower grades in agreement with the Government concerned and in the higher grades in agreement with the Council of Ministers. It would also be responsible for: liaison with member-States of N.A.T.O. and with international organizations; scientific research and the import and export of war materials; and decisions as to the use of material aid provided by non-members.

A statement issued by the conference underlined the defensive purpose of the Community and pointed out that the establishment of a common budget and arms programme should tend towards the most economical use of members' resources and the realization of arms standardization.

**European Defence Community (continued)**

**19 May**—The Foreign Ministers of the six participating Powers met in Paris to examine the completed draft of the treaty.

**21 May**—The conference of Ministers broke up without reaching agreement on the duration of the treaty.

**Voting.** It was announced that the conference had agreed that in the Council of Ministers, pending the formation of a European Army, the votes of France, Germany, and Italy should each count as three, those of Belgium and the Netherlands as two, and that of Luxembourg as one.

The conference had agreed to adopt the terms of Article 6 of the North Atlantic Treaty as defining the territories in which European defence forces might be used.

**FRANCE. 1 May—R.P.F.** Addressing a May Day rally in Paris, Gen. de Gaulle emphasized the need for effort and renewal which, he said, the R.P.F. alone offered. He declared that M. Pinay was an honourable man who was trying to achieve something of which every Frenchman approved, but in the present state of the regime 'the results would be terribly precarious because he would not be able to abolish the causes of our difficulties, due to the weakness of our economy, to the disorder of the State, to party divisions, and to a complex of inferiority in dealing with foreign nations'.

North Africans who were taking part in May Day demonstrations clashed with the police at Douai and at Valenciennes. About thirty North Africans and thirty police were injured at Douai and about thirty persons at Valenciennes.

**3 May**—Extension of trade agreement with Hungary (*see Hungary*).

**6 May—Defence.** M. Pleven, Minister of National Defence, explained to the Assembly's Finance Committee the details of the defence budget for the current year which totalled 830 milliard francs, exclusive of 400 milliards for Indo-China, 35 milliards for forces in oversea territories (not North Africa), 5 milliards for civilian protection in case of air raids, and 130 milliards for pensions and other services. M. Pleven said the Budget would allow France to provide by the end of 1952 an army of 642,000 men (not including 196,000 serving in Indo-China and 47,000 in French oversea territories), and this would permit her to fulfil by the end of 1952 the N.A.T.O. Lisbon programme for France of twelve land divisions, twenty-seven air squadrons, and a fleet of 456,000 tons in service.

**7 May—Gen. Juin.** The Council of Ministers conferred the title of Marshal of France on Gen. Juin and posthumously on Gen. Leclerc de Hautecloque.

**12 May—Great Britain and E.D.C.** Field-Marshal Alexander, British Defence Minister, had discussions in Paris with M. Pleven, Defence Minister, on the nature of possible arrangements to ensure the co-operation of British armed forces on the Continent with E.D.C. forces, and their association in training, administration, and supply.

**13 May**—Western Note to Russia on Germany (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**14 May—Tunisia.** Speaking to the Anglo-American Press Associa-

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tion, M. Pinay, Prime Minister, said that it was proper that Franco-Tunisian relations should be revised after an association of eighty years, but this should be done by changing not the original treaty but the manner and spirit in which it was applied.

**16 May—N.A.T.O.** Speaking to the International Press Institute in Paris, Gen. Gruenther, Chief of Staff to the Supreme Allied Commander, said that the plans of the allied headquarters were being drawn up to defend western Europe in the event of war and not to withdraw from it. The forces at present available could not halt an immediate Soviet attack, but if the goals set at Lisbon were achieved by the end of the year, N.A.T.O. defensive capacity would be greatly increased, though that would not be the end of the efforts required to guarantee security. In reply to questions, Gen. Gruenther said that the inclusion of Germany in the western defensive system would give more time for reserves to be called up. If Germany were not included it would involve a change of strategy.

**17 May—Tunisia.** The Foreign Office denied reports that the United States had sent a Note to France urging speedy reforms in Tunisia and threatening to abstain when the issue was next raised in the Security Council. It admitted, however, that a statement to this effect by State Department officials had been made to M. Bonnet, French Ambassador in Washington.

**18 May—Algeria.** About fifty people were hurt and ninety-eight arrested in clashes in Paris between police and North Africans who were distributing leaflets protesting against the deportation of Messali Hadj, the Algerian leader.

**Senatorial Elections.** Elections by indirect voting took place for the renewal of half the seats in the Council of the Republic. The official percentages of the total number of votes were as follows: Communists 13.1; Socialists 18; Left wing various 8; R.G.R. 16; M.R.P. 9.8; Moderates 25.7; R.P.E. 15.6.

**20 May—Loan Bill.** The Assembly approved by 324 votes to 206 a Bill to legalize the terms of a long-term loan after rejecting by 332 votes to 207 an unfavourable report on the loan from the Finance Committee.

The terms of the Bill provided that invested capital should bear a gold guarantee, the value of which would be tied to the quotations of the gold napoleon (the old 20-franc piece). Interest was at the rate of 3.5 per cent free of tax and bore no gold guarantee. The invested capital was exempt from death duties. The bonds could be used in payment of some direct taxes. They could not be purchased directly in gold from the State issuing offices, but banks would accept gold in payment without commission. The loan would be redeemable in sixty years. The Bill stated that it was essential to give those with confidence in the State the certainty that they would recover the value of their investments.

**21 May—Gen. Eisenhower.** At a ceremony to mark his official leave-taking, Gen. Eisenhower was decorated with the Médaille Militaire by M. Pinay, Prime Minister.



**GERMANY. 1 May—Berlin.** May Day demonstrations were held in both sectors of the city. Addressing a rally in the Soviet sector, Herr Pieck, East German President, said that an 'armed defence force' would be set up in the Soviet zone if the contractual arrangements being discussed by west Germany and the western Powers were carried into effect.

**East Germany.** Herr Grotewohl, the east German premier, also said that if the pending peace contracts were signed in Bonn an eastern national army would be formed, and he added that there would be war as they would have to fight to prevent west Germany from being integrated into the western war *bloc*.

**2 May—West Germany.** Leading members of the Free Democratic Party (the second largest in the Government coalition) expressed to the press dissatisfaction with the proposed contractual agreements with the western Powers which, they declared, amounted to 'a treaty of subjection'.

The Social Democratic Party issued a statement complaining that they had not been informed of the course of the negotiations nor of the details of the agreements, and they declared it to be high time that the Allies should be asked whether they really regarded 'a Government on such an unstable basis as authorized to take decisions of such gravity in the name of the German people'.

**Berlin.** A demonstration by east Berlin students against Professor Heuss, President of the Federal Republic, who had arrived to open a high school for politics, led to clashes with west Berliners. The police quickly restored order, arresting 140 persons.

**3 May—West Germany.** The independent paper, *Die Welt*, published an interview with Herr Strauss, a prominent member of the Christian Democrat Party, who said that members of his party felt that many clauses of the proposed new agreements with the western Powers were unsatisfactory and the agreements should not therefore be hurried through by the proposed date.

*Die Welt* itself wrote that a 'national crisis' had arisen and was the result of the western Powers' policy of 'mistrust and threats'. It called the agreements 'an insult' to Germany and complained that the west was not prepared 'to set free a slave in order to win an ally'.

The British authorities published a counter-statement in which they denied *Die Welt's* accusation that developments were the work of the western Powers and stated that the agreements should be the fruits of free decisions by both the Germans and the allies and that the very length of the negotiations showed that the western Powers had been ready to examine every German grievance.

Herr Schaeffer, Federal German Finance Minister, announced a pay increase for several hundred thousand civil servants, in some cases by nearly a third. They were also to receive an extra fortnight's pay. He said other increases would follow.

**4 May—Restitution for Refugees.** Thousands of refugees and Germans expelled from their homes in the east demonstrated in Bonn against the revised Bill to provide financial restitution for war losses.

They considered the Bill inadequate and that quicker and more substantial help should be given.

**6 May—East-West German Trade.** West Berlin officials announced that the East and West German Governments had signed a new inter-zonal trade agreement for an exchange of goods to the value of 120 m. marks (about £10 m.). West Germany would deliver steel, iron, metal products, and chemicals in exchange for timber, agricultural products, fuels, and textiles. One third of the west German deliveries would be iron and steel products.

Danish Foreign Minister on South Schleswig (*see Denmark*).

The Federal German Parliament decided unanimously to recommend the resumption of normal trade with countries of the eastern bloc, and it asked that west Germany's freedom to trade with the eastern bloc should be recognized in the contractual agreements with the western Powers.

**7 May—Free Democratic Party.** It was learned that, as a protest against the action of the F.D.P. in joining a coalition with the Social Democratic Party in the new South-West State, Herr Euler had refused to stand for renomination as chairman of the F.D.P.'s parliamentary group, and other deputies representing Hessian constituencies had similarly refused election to the party's executive committee.

**8 May—Berlin. Soviet Attack on French Aircraft.** The western commandants informed Gen. Chuikov, head of the Soviet Control Commission, that the western members of the Allied Air Safety Centre had been instructed to determine the material damage sustained by the French airliner shot down on 29 April by Soviet aircraft. They asked that Soviet representatives should attend the inquiry which would be held the following day.

**East Germany.** On the seventh anniversary of the German surrender, messages were exchanged with Mr Stalin, and Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, issued a statement calling for an 'active struggle' against the Bonn agreements. He declared that if the resistance of west Germans failed and the danger of war increased, the east must look to the armed defence of the republic whose forces would have to protect the victory of peace over war achieved seven years earlier. He said there were no reservations in his Government's proposals for a unified German Government, free elections, and the conclusion of a peace treaty, but in another context he said that the East German Government would never give up its development voluntarily in order to be swallowed by American imperialism. He asserted that Herr Adenauer intended to resolve the crisis in Bonn by a *putsch* by signing the agreements without the consent of Parliament or people.

**9 May—East Germany: Government Change.** It was announced that Dr Steinhoff, Minister of the Interior, had resigned because of ill health and had been replaced by Herr Stoph.

**Berlin.** The three western members of the Air Safety Centre met at Tempelhof airport for the inquiry into the damage sustained by the French aircraft, but no Soviet officer appeared.

**10 May—Berlin.** An allied statement announced that since 8 May

**Germany (continued)**

westward patrols by British and U.S. military police along the autobahn to Helmstedt had been denied passage through the Russian check point at the western outskirts of Berlin. The western commandants had brought the matter to the notice of Gen. Chuikov, the Russian C-in-C.

The East German Government ordered all trains to stop using, from 18 May, the Anhalter and Stettiner railways in the south and north of Berlin respectively and to use instead the newly-completed by-passing railway, thereby avoiding passage through the U.S. and French sectors.

**11 May—West Germany.** A youth was shot dead and two others and a policeman seriously wounded at Essen when, after being attacked with stones, the police opened fire to break up a banned demonstration organized by the (Communist) Free Democratic Youth in protest against the Allied-German contractual agreements and German rearmament.

**12 May—East Germany.** Herr Ulbricht, deputy Premier, told the press that the consequences for Berlin would be 'clearly seen' the day after the Bonn agreements were signed: it was evident, he said, that if the western Powers, breaking off normal relations with the Russians, continued to use west Berlin as a bridgehead, the Potsdam provisions governing the allied occupation could no longer be valid. He said that any military preparations undertaken in the west would be matched in the east, and he also threatened that those who signed or voted for the Bonn agreements would be carefully registered for future punishment. He again called for mass strikes and demonstrations in west Germany against the agreements. Referring to the clash at Essen on the previous day, he defended the demonstration, said that the police action amounted to murder, and threatened reprisals against two of the police officers in charge. Herr Ulbricht admitted the recent attack by Soviet fighters against a French airliner, but asserted that if allied aircraft flew out of the air corridor to take reconnaissance photographs over strategic centres they could not complain if attacked.

**13 May—Berlin.** The Soviet ban on allied patrols along the autobahn between Berlin and west Germany was imposed also at the Helmstedt end.

The Communists sent about 500 persons into the British sector to demonstrate against the Bonn agreements. They were sent back by the west Berlin police after seventeen arrests had been made.

The Soviet zone news agency announced the arrest of a western agent said to be well supplied with explosives.

**West Germany.** The Communist Party appealed for strikes, memorial services, and mass meetings in protest against the killing and wounding of young patriots at Essen and against the Bonn agreements.

Western Note to Russia on Germany (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**14 May—**Mr Acheson's assurance *re* Berlin (*see United States*).

After a meeting between western and Soviet representatives, an American patrol car was allowed to pass along the autobahn from Berlin to Helmstedt.

An American court sentenced a German who had been a prisoner in

Russia from 1945-50 to thirteen years' imprisonment for espionage on behalf of Russia.

**East Germany.** The east German news agency strongly criticized the western Note to Russia, accusing the western Powers of trying to obstruct a peace treaty and of seeking to perpetuate a divided Germany.

Two German youths were sentenced to life imprisonment and two others to fifteen and ten years' imprisonment for sabotage under the law 'for the protection of peace'.

**15 May—Berlin.** Allied military cars were alternately stopped and allowed to pass at either end of the Berlin-Helmstedt autobahn.

The Russians opened the direct Berlin-Hamburg road to German traffic for the first time since 1945.

The Russians announced that a warning had been sent to the French authorities because a French aircraft had flown outside one of the air corridors on 12 May.

**16 May—Berlin.** The East German News Agency announced that Gen. Trusov, deputy Chief of Staff of Soviet armed forces in Germany, had written on 13 May to the three western Commandants complaining that the British and Americans had made 'illegal' attempts to organize an armed patrol service on the Berlin autobahn which was under 'Soviet control', in spite of previous Russian warnings of the 'inadmissibility of such attempts at interference on east German territory'. The Soviet Military Police had been instructed to maintain the traffic rules applying to the autobahn. The announcement added that 'as is known' it had been agreed at a three-Power meeting on 29 June 1945 that supervision and control of traffic on the road would be carried out by the Russians, and that the 'exclusive right' of the Russians in the matter had been acknowledged in several British and American documents. The Americans had tried to institute a patrol in 1950 but their attempts had been rejected with emphasis by the Russians.

Most of the allied patrols on the autobahn were allowed through the Russian check points during the day, but some were turned back at the Helmstedt end.

The east German Government staged a large demonstration in east Berlin to protest against west German rearmament, the Bonn agreements, and the police action at Essen on 11 May.

**West Germany.** The Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe refused an application by the Social Democratic Party and the Federal Union, supported by 144 members of the *Bundestag*, for an interim injunction to restrain the Chancellor from signing the E.D.C. treaty and the contractual agreement with the western Powers.

The *Bundestag* rejected two Social Democratic resolutions, the first of which required the Government to inform the western Powers that the validity of the signature of the two treaties would be subject to reservation until the Constitutional Court had given its ruling on the petition, filed with it, that the treaties involved a change in the Basic Law of the Republic and could therefore be ratified only by a two-thirds majority. The second resolution asked for a special meeting of the *Bundestag* on 23 May to debate the two agreements.



**Germany (continued)**

**West Germany: Equalization of War Burdens Bill.** The Bill was passed in the *Bundestag* after a seven-day debate. It provided for a levy to run for thirty years, on fortunes, estates, and assets, including shareholdings, to yield 2,150 m. marks a year. The money would be used for making restitution for losses due to the war, and funds would also be set aside for building houses and re-establishing homes and pensions. West Berlin was covered by the Bill. The Social Democratic Opposition criticized the Bill on the ground that the levy was unfair to the poor and favoured the rich.

**17 May—East Germany.** The Government announced that international passports for travel to western Germany would not in future be issued by the administrative authorities but only by the 'People's Police'.

**19 May—**The Soviet authorities closed without warning a minor railway crossing point between Hof in the U.S. Zone and Gutenfürst in the Soviet Zone.

**West Germany.** Herr Ollenhauer, deputy leader of the Social Democrats, wrote to Dr Adenauer requesting a parliamentary debate on the contractual agreements during the week and claiming that one-third of the members of Parliament had the right to request a debate and that good reason must be given for refusal.

Dr Schumacher, leader of the Social Democrats, issued a statement repeating that four-Power talks should precede 'the alignment of a part of Germany in an international system' and maintaining that 'seventy million Germans' gave first priority to German reunification.

**Berlin.** Gen. Coleman, the British Commandant, sent a sharp protest to Mr Dengin, representative in Berlin of the Soviet Control Commission, concerning the arrest on 17 May by a Russian guard of a German woman at the Russian war memorial just inside the British sector. Gen. Coleman said he would not tolerate such 'usurpation of his authority'. He demanded an apology and said he would be forced to take 'appropriate action' if he did not receive a satisfactory answer by the end of the week. (It was learned later that the woman was released on arrival in the eastern sector.)

**20 May—East Germany.** The Government increased by 50 per cent the duty on all goods entering east Germany from the west. No official announcement was made, but the order was sent to goods yards from the State Railway H.Q.

**West Germany.** Dr Adenauer gave an assurance to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the *Bundestag*, to whom he had communicated the text of the German contract, that the Western Powers and his Government were agreed that a future Government of a reunited Germany would have the right to call for a revision of the treaty.

**Restitution to Jews.** It was announced that Professor Böhm, head of the German delegation in the reparations negotiations with Israel, and his deputy, Herr Küster, had resigned from their posts as a protest against the Federal Government's policy of linking restitution to victims of Nazism with other debts. In a letter to the Federal Chancellor,

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Professor Böhm said he considered the German people under a strong moral obligation to repair the wrongs done to the Jews.

Herr Fuster broadcast a violent attack on the Chancellor and the Government, alleging that the Finance Minister had been unwilling to provide out of his 20,000 m. Budget even as little as 100 m. marks for restitution to the Jews. He also said that increased taxation to finance restitution had been held to be politically inexpedient.

The Cabinet reaffirmed its anxiety for an honourable understanding with Israel, and the Chancellor declared before the *Bundestag* in the name of the Government and with the endorsement of all parties that restitution was for the new Germany a debt of honour.

**21 May**—After a discussion with the Chancellor and Herr Abs, head of the German delegation to the London debts conference, Professor Böhm decided to hold his resignation in abeyance.

**East Germany.** After a meeting attended by Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, and Herr Nuschke, one of the deputy Prime Ministers, the national council of the 'National Front' movement issued a statement appealing to east and west Germans to resist the Bonn agreements. It also declared that it had become unavoidably necessary for east Germans 'to have their own armed forces which will serve only peace'. Herr Grotewohl made a speech in which he emphasized the importance of continuing the campaign in west Germany against the agreements after they had been signed. He said a 'national liberation' movement must be created out of the middle and working classes to combine with the 'democratic State order' of the Russian zone. Ballots, leaflets, petitions, mass meetings, and every possible means to rally opinion must be adopted.

**GREAT BRITAIN. 1 May—British Honduras.** It was announced that the Colonial Secretary had approved the second stage of the British Honduras development plan and that a grant of £800,000 would be made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. A further sum, not exceeding £100,000 would be provided if it should be decided to build a deep-water pier at Commerce Bight. It was proposed to raise £530,000 by loans for self-financing projects, and a loan of £300,000 would be sought for the proposed pier.

**Persia: Bahrein.** The Foreign Office published the text of a British Note to Persia in reply to the Persian Note of 20 April (*see* 21 April). The Note rejected the Persian protest against the visit to Bahrein of Sir Eric Beckett and pointed out that Bahrein was a State under British protection bound to the United Kingdom by treaties dating over a continuous period since 1820. It declared that the British Government did not recognize the Iranian claim to Bahrein or to any territory belonging to any State under British protection in the Persian Gulf.

**2 May—Colonial Development.** The annual report of the Colonial Development Corporation was published. It stated that the total deficiency attributable to the Corporation during 1951 was £2,905,290 which was about twice that in 1950. It included £643,000 trading losses; £283,000 administrative expenditure; £1,843,000 losses incurred on

**Great Britain (continued)**

the realization of assets of abandoned undertakings; and provision made for future capital losses. It expressed the view that 1951 should have constituted the peak of the Corporation's losses.

**United States.** Admiral Fechteler, U.S. Chief of Naval Staff, arrived in London for discussions.

Note to Iceland *re* fishery limits (*see Iceland*).

**3 May—Jet Air Liner Service.** Flying the first trip of a new jet air liner service, a B.A.O.C. Comet jet air liner arrived in Johannesburg from London, having taken twenty-three hours thirty-eight minutes to complete the 6,724-mile flight.

**5 May—N.A.T.O.** Gen. Juin, Inspector-General of the French Armed Forces and C.-in-C., Allied Land Forces, Central Europe, arrived in London for defence discussions.

**6 May—Government Resignation.** Mr Maclay, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, resigned owing to ill-health.

**Egypt.** The Egyptian Ambassador, Amr Pasha, had an interview with Mr Churchill, Prime Minister.

**7 May—Korea.** Mr Eden, Foreign Secretary, explained in a statement to the House the latest U.N. proposals to end the Korean deadlock which had been revealed in a statement issued by Gen. Ridgway the same day (*see Korea*). Describing how the investigation was carried out which established that only about 70,000 of the 132,000 prisoners held by the United Nations wished to be repatriated, Mr Eden emphasized the scrupulous fairness of the investigation and assured the House that no pressure had been put on prisoners not to return and that full publicity had been given to the Communist offer, issued on 4 April, of an amnesty to all returned prisoners. The Communists had not accepted the U.N. solution but had instead proposed a counter-solution under which the nomination of Soviet Russia as a neutral supervisor was withdrawn. At the same time they had continued to reject the right of prisoners to decline repatriation. 'This is, of course,' Mr Eden said, 'the essential point of principle on which the United Nations are not prepared to compromise.' They would, however, continue the search for acceptable armistice terms.

**Austria.** Dr Figl, the Austrian Chancellor, arrived in London for a four-day visit.

**Government Changes.** The following Government appointments were announced: Mr Crookshank (formerly Minister of Health) to be Lord Privy Seal; Mr I. N. Macleod to be Minister of Health; Mr Lennox-Boyd (formerly Minister of State for Colonial Affairs) to be Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation; Mr Hopkinson (formerly Secretary for Overseas Trade) to be Minister of State for Colonial Affairs.

**8 May—Austria.** Dr Figl, speaking at a luncheon of the Foreign Press Association, said that the Soviet Government's linking of the Austrian treaty with the Trieste problem showed that Russia did not want a treaty for the time being. He said Austria would continue to demand fulfilment of the pledge of her freedom and if necessary would appeal to the United Nations.

Speaking later to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Dr Figl maintained that with the creation of a Federal army Austria could effectively frustrate any Communist infiltration from Czechoslovakia and Hungary. He said that after seven years of Communism and its methods the Austrian people would be immune against Communism for decades to come.

**Korea.** Mr Eden gave the following revised estimate of U.N. prisoners in Communist hands: 3,201 American, 919 United Kingdom, 12 other British Commonwealth, 234 Turkish, 52 other nations, 7,150 South Koreans.

**Marshall Aid.** The thirteenth report on operations under the Anglo-American Economic Co-operation Agreement was published as a White Paper (Cmd. 8534). The report showed that the total amount of Marshall Aid allotted to the United Kingdom from 3 April 1948 to 31 December 1951 was \$2,694,300,000, and this had all been received by the end of 1951 with the exception of \$700,000. The value of Marshall aid imports was about 8 per cent of the total value of British imports during the period.

**Petrol Restriction.** The Ministry of Fuel and Power imposed a cut of 30 per cent in deliveries of aviation spirit to civil aircraft operators for twenty-eight days from 19 May because of the U.S. oil strike.

**9 May—Rearmament.** The National Committee of the Amalgamated Engineering Union passed unanimously a resolution expressing 'grave concern at the extent to which the rearmament programme is seriously affecting Britain's economy', particularly vital engineering production, and proposing: a peace pact between the five Great Powers; an international discussion and agreement on a progressive reduction of all arms; prohibition of atomic weapons and of germ and bacteriological warfare, with full inspection and control; and an inquiry into the wages of workers in countries threatening Britain's trade, notably Japan and Germany.

**Trieste.** On the conclusion of the Anglo-U.S.-Italian discussions in London begun on 3 April a communiqué was issued announcing new arrangements for the administration of Zone A. It stated that the decisions taken were designed to give greater practical recognition to the predominantly Italian character of the zone: they would in no way prejudice a final solution of the future of the Free Territory as a whole, and they would continue to ensure to all inhabitants the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The three countries had agreed on the appointment by the Italian Government of an Italian political adviser to the Zone Commander, with a status similar to the U.S. and British political advisers. They had also agreed that a senior director of administration should be proposed by the Italian Government and appointed by the Zone Commander to whom he would be responsible. He would have under his administration; (a) a Directorate of Interior consisting of the following branches: Local Government, Labour, Social Assistance, Public Health, Education, Census and Survey, Fire Service; (b) a Directorate of Finance and Economics to include Departments for Commerce, Production, Finance (including

**Great Britain** (*continued*)

Customs and Finance Guards), Transportation, Public Works and Utilities, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Loans. Italian officials to administer the departments would be proposed by the Italian Government and appointed by the Zone Commander. Persons appointed might be replaced by the Zone Commander who would ask the Italian Government to nominate successors. The Italian Government might also recall persons proposed by it on notification to the Zone Commander. The three Governments reaffirmed that all existing economic and financial agreements concerning Zone A should remain in force. It was hoped that the necessary reorganization would be completed by 15 July.

**Yugoslavia: Trieste.** The Yugoslav Ambassador issued a statement declaring that according to all pre-Fascist censuses—which were not carried out in Yugoslavia—the whole of Zone A, including Trieste suburbs and surroundings, was predominantly Yugoslav and only the town of Trieste had an Italian majority. The assumption of the joint communiqué that Zone A was predominantly Italian was therefore false and prejudicial to Yugoslav rights and interests and would create serious obstacles to an eventual direct Yugoslav-Italian agreement. Yugoslavia could not accept any change even in the administration of the zone in favour of Italy because such changes in themselves prejudiced Yugoslav rights and interests. Changes could be legitimately carried out only with Yugoslavia's consent. The statement said that the calling of the London conference without consulting the Yugoslav Government and the holding of it without Yugoslav participation had already been the subject of Yugoslav protests.

**Austria.** Dr Figl announced that he had asked for some alleviation by Britain of occupation costs which amounted to about £2 m. for British troops.

Western Powers' Notes of reminder to Russia *re* their Austrian peace treaty proposal (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**Meat.** The Ministry of Food announced that because of foot-and-mouth disease in Saskatchewan the British, Canadian, and New Zealand Governments had agreed that surplus Canadian beef and pork which would normally be sold in the United States would be shipped to the United Kingdom in exchange for New Zealand meat which would be sold in America.

**11 May—Local Elections.** As a result of the local elections in the preceding week, the Labour Party claimed to have gained control of eleven county boroughs, sixteen non-county boroughs, twenty-seven urban district councils, and three Scottish burghs. It gave total seats gained as 1,357 and losses as 63.

Yugoslav memorandum on Trieste (*see Yugoslavia*).

**12 May—Franco-British discussions on co-operation of British and E.D.C. forces** (*see France*).

**Trieste.** Mr Eden, Foreign Secretary, made a statement in the House on the London agreement on Trieste in which he explained the administrative responsibilities to be taken over by the Italians in Zone A. He regretted Marshal Tito's attack on the arrangements and refused



to accept that there had been any violation of the Italian peace treaty. He declared that on the contrary the Government and the U.S. Government considered the basic juridical position to remain unchanged. He reaffirmed that the arrangements were 'entirely without prejudice to the final solution of the problem of the future of the Free Territory as a whole'.

Icelandic Note *re* fishery limits (*see Iceland*).

**13 May**—Western Note to Russia on Germany (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**14 May**—**Western European Defence.** Opening a debate on foreign affairs in the Commons, Mr Eden referred to the Labour Party Executive's suggestion that fresh elections should be held in western Germany before any commitments were made regarding a German contribution to the European Defence Community. Mr Eden described the proposal as 'an unusual and improper interference in the internal affairs of another country', and said that its only practical effect would be to delay the signature of the E.D.C. and the contractual obligations for more than one year as elections in west Germany could not take place before the autumn of 1953. That, in his view, was to invite, if not compel, the failure of the whole plan. He suggested that the Opposition's policy might be based on its sympathy with the Opposition to the German Government and he emphasized the danger of basing foreign policy on any such partisan considerations. Mr Eden then warmly defended the whole conception of the E.D.C. and emphasized the safeguards it provided against the danger of German rearmament. He said that great care had been taken to ensure that national contributions were so balanced that no one member could dominate the Community by force of numbers. Moreover, the European Defence Force as a whole would form only one eighth of the total forces entrusted to S.H.A.P.E.

Mr Eden said the Government still intended that the E.D.C. proposals and the German contractual negotiations should be signed that month, 'and Communist threats, now becoming more violent, ought not to influence their action except perhaps to consolidate their purpose'. The views of the Government in all these matters had been fully set out in the Note of 13 May to the Soviet Government, and any Soviet approaches for a settlement would be carefully examined and probed.

**U.S.S.R.** Mr Stewart, Under Secretary Scottish Office, announced in the Commons the conclusion by the Herring Industry Board of a contract for the sale to Russia of cured herring to the value of £850,000.

**15 May**—**Caribbean Bases.** An informal agreement with the United States was announced under which some of the Caribbean bases leased to the United States in 1941 for 99 years in exchange for fifty old U.S. destroyers were handed back to Britain for food production. The United States retained the right to reoccupy them at short notice.

**16 May**—**U.S.S.R.** The Ministry of Food announced that as a counterpart to the herring agreement of 14 May, Britain had agreed to buy from Russia £800,000 worth of canned salmon and about £150,000 worth of canned crab-meat.

**19 May**—**German Debts.** The German debt conference reopened in London.



**Great Britain (continued)**

**China.** Note to China *re* closing down of British firms in China (see *China*).

**20 May—China.** Mr Eden stated in the House that the Government endorsed the decision of British firms in China to 'apply for closure, custody, transfer, or lease of their various interests'. He said that both the Government and the firms were convinced of the need for continued trade with China, and it had been suggested to the Chinese Government that this could best be done by means of a permanent trade organization representing manufacturers and overseas buyers which would maintain direct contact with the Chinese authorities. In their Note to Peking, the Government had requested all the necessary facilities to solve the various problems which would arise. Mr Eden reminded the House that British firms had for some time been facing increasing difficulties which were due partly to the fact that many of the functions formerly handled by private merchants and industrialists in China were being taken over by State organizations. There were, however, other difficulties, including the increasing restrictions on the entry and exit of foreign staffs, arbitrary taxation, and compulsion to retain and pay redundant labour. In these circumstances many firms had been operating at a loss for some time and had been unable to replace their foreign staff who had been working under acutely difficult conditions. Mr Eden stated further that the Government had approached the Chinese Government on the subject of trade proposals made at the Moscow economic conference but had received no reply. He estimated the value of British assets in China at between £200 m. and £250 m.

**Egypt.** The Egyptian Ambassador, Amr Pasha, called on Mr Eden to convey orally the Egyptian Government's reply to the British proposals of 3 May.

Trade agreement with the Netherlands (see *Netherlands*)

**21 May—Israel.** Mr Churchill, Prime Minister, informed the House that owing to the gravity of 'our own economic situation' the Government had felt compelled to refuse an Israeli request for a loan of £5 m. to finance her purchases of oil during the forthcoming six months.

**GREECE. 2 May—Turkey.** The Turkish Prime Minister and Foreign Minister left for Turkey. A communiqué was issued stating that complete agreement had been reached on all subjects discussed which embraced all international problems of common interest.

**5 May—N.A.T.O.** Admiral Carney, C.-in-C. Allied Forces, Southern Europe, arrived in Athens on a four-day visit.

**7 May—N.A.T.O.** Field-Marshal Montgomery arrived in Athens.

**8 May—Admiral Carney** had a conference with Field-Marshal Montgomery.

It was learnt from Government sources that the Greek and Turkish Governments had rejected an American proposal that their armies should come directly under a U.S. commander who would be under the orders of Gen. de Castiglione, the Italian commander of Allied Land Forces, Southern Europe.

**Cyprus.** The Pan-Hellenic Committee for union of Cyprus with Greece held a mass meeting in Athens which was addressed by Archbishop Spyridon, the Greek Primate and chairman of the Committee. A group of youths clashed with the police and a few of them were injured.

**9 May—N.A.T.O.** Admiral Carney announced to the press that Greek and Turkish forces would come directly under his command.

Field-Marshal Montgomery suggested in a speech at a dinner given by the Greek Government in his honour that Greece should try and reduce her heavy defence expenditure of nearly 50 per cent of her Budget.

**11 May—Field-Marshal Montgomery** repeated before leaving Athens that economies in Greek defence expenditure were essential, but he said he believed they could be made without cutting the strength of the three services.

**HONG KONG. 5 May—**After a hearing in the Supreme Court lasting fifteen days, the jury found the publisher (who was also proprietor) and the editor of the daily newspaper, *Ta Kung Pao*, Guilty of sedition and the printer Not Guilty. The action arose out of an article reproduced from the *Peking People's Daily* which, after the Kowloon disturbances of 1 March, accused the British authorities of 'unlawful and outrageous acts of persecution'. The publisher and editor were both fined, and the paper was suspended for six months.

**11 May—**Peking protest against suspension of *Ta Kung Pao* (see China).

**HUNGARY. 3 May—France.** Budapest Radio announced that the one-year trade agreement with France, due to expire on 4 May, would be extended for another year.

**ICELAND. 2 May—Great Britain: Fishery Limits.** A British Note was received which expressed regret that the Icelandic Government had seen fit to publish, in the light of the Hague Court's ruling in the British-Norwegian dispute, new fishing regulations without prior consultation with the British Government. The Note pointed out that British fishing vessels had for over half a century fished in waters from which they would be excluded under the new regulations, and the British Government had for that reason previously proposed negotiation on an *ad hoc* line. In view of Iceland's unilateral announcement, however, the British Government contested the Icelandic claim to a four-mile limit (which it had admitted in the case of Norway for exceptional historic reasons) and to the new base lines drawn by Iceland, and requested that the regulations be amended to give a three-mile limit and change one of the base lines. It declared that such an arrangement would be a 'material contribution to harmonious relations'.

**12 May—**In a reply to the British Note of 2 May, the Icelandic Government declined to alter the new fishery regulations and said that the new four-mile limit was supported by strong historical considera-

**Iceland** (*continued*)

tions and was considered by the 'entire Icelandic nation . . . to be the minimum protection of the very basis for its own survival'. It also stated that the base points from which the four-mile limit was measured were fully justified by the rules of international law.

**INDIA. 1 May**—Visit of naval and air commanders to Kashmir (*see Kashmir*).

**6 May**—Dr Rajendra Prasad was declared elected President of India. He received 84 per cent of the total poll.

**13 May—New Government.** Dr Rajendra Prasad was sworn in as President, and the new constitution came into force. Later Mr Nehru announced his new Government, which included eight members of the old Government and six new members. Mr Nehru remained as Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs, and Sir Chintaman Deshmukh as Finance Minister. Sir Gopalaswami Ayyangar, former Minister of Transport, became Defence Minister.

**19 May—Elections.** The official election figures released by the Election Commission showed that, in the elections to the State Assemblies, the Congress Party secured 42.3 per cent of the 103.8 m. valid votes, the Socialist Party 10 m. votes, the Communist Party 5.5 m. (mainly in Madras, Hyderabad, West Bengal, and Travancore-Cochin), and the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party 5.3 m. votes.

In the elections to the House of the People, Congress secured 362 seats, Communists and allies 27, the Socialist Party 12, K.M.P. 10, Independents 36, other parties 6.

**21 May**—Replying to criticism of the Government's foreign policy in the Council of States, Mr Nehru, Prime Minister, asserted that 99.9 per cent of the people were agreed on foreign policy. He defended India's association with the Commonwealth, declaring that India's freedom of action and policy had never been wrongly influenced because of it and he could point to many good things resulting from it.

**INDO-CHINA. 21 May**—At the request of the French High Commissioner, the Viet-Nameese Government forbade the sale and ordered the seizure of a large number of foreign publications, including three American magazines, all those from behind the Iron Curtain, fifty-three German newspapers, sixteen Austrian, three Italian, three Swiss, two Spanish, and one English. It was stated officially that all the publications had contained articles likely to undermine the morale of the Army and critical of the French Foreign Legion. After a protest from the U.S. Minister in Saigon, the ban on two of the American publications was rescinded.

**IRAQ. 8 May**—Visit of Regent and Prime Minister to Spain (*see Spain*).

**IRELAND. 1 May—Budget.** The Dail passed the Budget by 72 votes to 69.

**19 May—Rationing.** It was announced that food rationing would end on 4 July.

**ISRAEL. 6 May—German Reparations.** The Israeli Parliament passed a resolution recommending the Government to suspend further negotiations with the German Federal Republic until a firm offer for the settlement of Jewish restitution claims should have been made.

**19 May—Egypt.** An Italian ship with a cargo from Ethiopia arrived in Tel Aviv, having been allowed by the Egyptian Customs to pass through the Suez Canal. It was stated that Egyptian restrictions were still being applied to all goods of a military character.

**20 May et seq.—German dispute over restitution to the Jews (see Germany).**

**21 May—British refusal of a loan (see Great Britain).**

Mr Kaplan, Finance Minister, announced that he was resigning owing to ill health.

**ITALY. 9 May—Trieste.** Three-Power statement and Yugoslav reaction (see Great Britain).

Signor De Gasperi, Prime Minister, told the press that the new arrangements for Zone A had substantially met Italy's needs, and they were a preparation for, but in no way prejudiced, a final settlement which must be based on the 1948 tripartite declaration. He repeated that an international settlement for Trieste would be impossible unless the western Powers co-operated in the work of procuring a solution.

**11 May—Marshal Tito on Trieste (see Yugoslavia).**

**13 May—The Council of Ministers approved a draft Bill (the *Legge Polivalente*) providing for a preliminary revision of the penal code where it affected certain crimes against the State and the civil and political liberties established by the new constitution. One of the clauses laid down the punishment of one to three years' imprisonment and a maximum fine of 1 m. lire for any persons organizing or directing a party, association, or movement directed against the fundamental democratic institutions, or which threatened or exalted violence as a method of political action.**

Yugoslav memorandum on Trieste (see Yugoslavia).

**20 May—Italian protest to Yugoslavia re Trieste (see Yugoslavia).**

**JAPAN. 1 May—May Day Riots.** As a result of Communist incitement, May Day anti-Government demonstrations deteriorated into rioting. Stones and gas bombs were thrown and cars burned. The police restored order within three hours, using tear gas and firing at the feet of the rioters. Preliminary reports estimated casualties at one policeman killed and 218 policemen, 300 rioters, and scores of Americans injured. The police made 153 arrests.

**2 May—Mr Murphy, U.S. Ambassador, told the press that he thought the disturbances of the previous day followed 'a certain classic pattern, with the same type of leadership'. He did not think they represented the attitude of the majority of the people towards foreigners**



**Japan (continued)**

but thought the object of the violence was 'more of the same policy' dictated by Moscow, namely to create differences between Japan and the United States, to promote discord within the labour movement, to make mischief between labour and the police, and to give the impression that the Government was anti-labour.

The Emperor Hirohito and Cabinet Ministers took part in a non-religious ceremony to commemorate those killed in war since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war in 1937.

**6 May**—Chinese denunciation of peace treaty (*see China*).

**15 May**—**Subversive Activities Prevention Bill.** The Bill was passed in the House of Representatives by 194 votes to 103. Designed to curb the activities of organizations inciting or instigating violence or insurrection, the Bill provided for the establishment of a public security investigation commission to take cognizance of activities flagrantly and repeatedly threatening public peace, and of a public security review board to revise the actions of the investigation commission. As a concession to the Opposition which considered the Bill too sweeping, the Government agreed that members of the two bodies should be appointed by the Prime Minister with the approval of both Houses.

**JORDAN. 18 May**—A communiqué was issued announcing that King Talal, accompanied by the Queen and their children, had left that day for France for rest and convalescence.

A Council of Regency consisting of the Prime Minister, the President of the Senate, and the President of Parliament, took the oath and assumed constitutional powers on behalf of the King.

**KASHMIR. 1 May**—**India.** The British commanders-in-chief of the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy arrived in Srinagar on their first official visits to the Jammu and Kashmir State.

**KOREA. 2 May**—The Communist delegation rejected the latest U.N. proposal for an overall solution submitted on 28 April.

The U.S. Navy announced that two American destroyers had been slightly damaged in a duel with shore batteries in Wonsan harbour on 30 April.

**4 May**—**Germ Warfare Allegations.** Pyongyang Radio broadcast an alleged 'confession' by two captured American airmen that they had dropped 'unexplosive germ bombs' in North Korea on 13 January and that they had been trained in germ and atomic warfare since 15 August 1951.

**6 May**—A saturation attack on the North Korean railway junction of Sunchon was made by several hundred U.N. fighter-bombers escorted by Sabre jet fighters.

**7 May**—Gen. Mark Clark arrived in Tokio to take over as Supreme Commander Allied Forces, Far East.

Gen. Ridgway, the outgoing Supreme Commander, issued a statement revealing the overall solution to the armistice deadlock proposed

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by the United Nations in closed session on 28 April and rejected by the Communists. The solution offered an exchange by the United Nations of approximately 70,000 prisoners who did not forcibly oppose repatriation for the 12,000 U.N. personnel which the Communists admitted to holding as prisoners. The U.N. Command continued its willingness, following an armistice, to allow any suitable international body, or joint Red Cross teams, together with observers from both sides, to interview prisoners held by the United Nations who forcibly opposed repatriation and to return promptly to the Communists any persons found not to do so. The United Nations Command agreed that the armistice provisions would not make any reference to reconstruction or rehabilitation of airfields. The solution also provided for the acceptance of the Communist nominations of Poland and Czechoslovakia and of the U.S. nominations of Sweden and Switzerland for the neutral supervisory commission. The statement said that the Communists had continued to oppose the U.N. command solution for the exchange of prisoners which was based on the humanitarian principle that no person should be forcibly returned to Communist control. It emphasized that the solution embodied the limit to which the United Nations could go, that it was not subject to substantive change, and that it was contingent upon acceptance as a whole by the Communists. It placed responsibility for peace in Korea on the Communists.

Statement by Mr Eden (*see Great Britain*).

Communist prisoners in the camp on Kojé Island off South Korea, seized the Camp Commandant, Gen. Dodd, and another officer while they were talking with Communist leaders and held the General as a hostage. The other officer escaped.

**8 May**—U.N. aircraft attacked a Communist supply base at Suan, forty miles south-east of Pyongyang, in a raid described as 'the biggest of the war'.

Gen. Ridgway, Supreme Commander Far East, said the rebellious Communist prisoners on Kojé Island were demanding various concessions as a condition for releasing Gen. Dodd. He authorized the use of force, if necessary, to secure the General's release.

**9 May**—After a flying visit to Kojé, Gen. Van Fleet, Eighth Army Commander, announced that the Communists' terms for the release of Gen. Dodd were unreasonable and would not be granted.

**10 May**—Gen. Dodd was released by the Communists after his successor as Commandant, Gen. Colson, had made a number of promises to his captors.

**12 May**—Gen. Mark Clark, the new Supreme Commander, Far East, issued a statement revealing that in order to secure Gen. Dodd's release, Gen. Colson had agreed to the following Communist conditions: (1) to do all in his power to eliminate future violence and bloodshed on Kojé; (2) to stop 'forcible screening' or any rearming of prisoners in the camp and not to make any attempt at 'nominal screening'; (3) to allow the organization of a representative group of Communist prisoners. Gen. Clark said these demands which were made at a time of duress when Gen. Dodd's life was at stake were 'unadulterated blackmail',

**Korea (continued)**

and any commitments made by Gen. Colson as a result of them should be interpreted accordingly. He declared that the incident and the riots earlier in the year were motivated by attempts to influence the armistice negotiations.

Admiral Joy, head of the U.N. delegation, said after the armistice session at Panmunjom that the Communists had poured out a flood of 'invectives, distortions, and culpable lies' against the Allies and had threatened to use the meetings overtly for propaganda unless the Allies disrupted them. The Allies were accused of massacres and barbarous measures, including blood-stealing and forced tattooing of prisoners.

**13 May**—Gen. Colson was relieved of his command of the U.N. prison camp on Kojé Island. A statement issued by the Defence Department in Washington sharply criticized the wording of Gen. Colson's agreement with the Communists, especially the following phrases which were stated to give erroneous impressions: 'Many prisoners of war have been killed or wounded by U.N. forces'; 'Prisoners will receive humane treatment in the future'; and there will be 'no more forcible screening or any rearming of prisoners of war'.

**14 May**—At the armistice negotiations, Gen Nam Il of North Korea asserted that Gen. Colson had 'openly admitted' that prisoners of war on Kojé had been subjected to inhumane treatment in violation of the Geneva convention.

**U.S. Casualties.** The U.S. Defence Department in Washington announced that U.S. battle casualties increased in the preceding week by 241 to a total of 108,413 of which 17,119 were killed, 78,805 wounded, and 12,489 missing.

The *New York Post* reported that 'operations in the past ten days have involved large forces, and casualties have been considerable'. The dispatch added that because the fighting had not involved U.S. troops but was being done almost entirely by South Korean units, it had not been reported.

**15 May**—Gen. Mark Clark declared in Tokio that the agreement made by Gen. Colson with the Communists on Kojé Island had 'no validity whatsoever'. He said Gen. Colson's authority to deal with the prisoners 'did not extend to authority for him to purport to accept any of the vicious and false charges upon which the Communist demands were based'. He added that the circumstances from the very beginning were those of 'duress involving the physical threat to life of a United Nations officer' and that 'investigation made so far indicates that the kidnapping of Gen. Dodd was carefully prepared to manufacture propaganda for the purpose of beclouding the whole prisoner-of-war issue at the Panmunjom negotiations'.

At Kojé, Gen. Boatner, the new Commandant, said that unruly prisoners would be sternly repressed and there would be no more 'insulting signs' and red flags in the compounds.

**16 May—Reports on Kojé Riots.** The International Red Cross published in Geneva two reports on the incidents of 18 February at Kojé camp in which some prisoners lost their lives and others were

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wounded. One report was by Col. Fitzgerald, then Commandant of the camp, who said that the trouble had started during screening of prisoners when Communist agitators had incited a prisoner battalion to attack the troops. The other report was by the Red Cross delegates and gave information received at first hand from one of the prisoners' leaders.

**17 May**—Gen. Mark Clark sent the 187th Airborne Regiment to Koje Island to reinforce the troops there. In announcing the action, Gen. Clark said that Communist prisoners and internees on the island had not only repeatedly resorted to violence but, obviously acting on instructions from outside Communist agents, had 'threatened mass outbreaks which inevitably would result in further bloodshed'. He would not countenance for one moment any further unlawful acts on the part of prisoners and internees.

**18 May—Truce Talks.** After the Communists had repeated allegations of 'inhuman treatment' of prisoners and other 'criminal acts in Korea', Admiral Joy reviewed the final U.N. armistice offer and called on the Communists to drop their propaganda and false charges which, he said, were so fantastic that they had defeated their own purpose.

**19 May**—Gen. Clark announced that Admiral Joy would be relieved as chief U.N. truce delegate on 23 June.

Admiral Joy said that at the day's truce negotiations he had told the Communist delegation they were telling an 'out and out lie' in denying that they had agreed to screening of prisoners.

**20 May**—One prisoner of war was killed and eighty-five injured in a riot at a prison camp at Pusan. (The camp was one to which non-Communists were sent but there had been some infiltration of Communists.) According to an Eighth Army statement, the outbreak began when a small group of 'fanatical' Communists tried to prevent the proper medical treatment of patients in a hospital compound. U.S. guards used riot tactics and restored order in two hours without firing a shot.

Gen. Boatner disclosed that there had been further trouble at Koje on 16 and 17 May but it had been brought under control. In one incident prisoner doctors and attendants had started a sit-down strike in support of demands made on the hospital commander. He said the Communists were using the hospital as an information centre.

**21 May**—Gen. Boatner disclosed that a Chinese prisoner in Koje camp had been shot and killed on 17 May by a guard against whom he had made threatening gestures.

Communist agitators at Pusan prison camp were removed by guards supported by two tanks and sent to Koje Island.

**MALAYA. 7 May—Reorganization.** It was announced in the Legislative Council that the strength of the special constabulary would be raised to 42,000 and that 186 senior police posts would be created. The creation of the following new posts was also announced: a director of intelligence to co-ordinate the work of all intelligence agencies; a staff officer to deal with all aspects of resettlement; a supplies officer to be stationed in London to expedite priority deliveries; and

**Malaya (continued)**

seven organization advisers to improve efficiency in Government departments.

**11 May—Terrorist Losses.** Official figures showed that in April 102 terrorists were killed, sixty-two wounded, and seven captured; six surrendered.

**14 May—**The surrender was reported of a group of thirteen Communist bandits.

Speaking in Kuala Lumpur, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner-General in South-East Asia, said that Malayan national unity could not be imposed by an external overruling Power like Britain, but could only be created by mutual regard, identical loyalty, and co-operation among all the races.

**15 May—**The Government issued a new emergency regulation allowing the electrification of fences around resettlement camps and villages and other methods to stop food being passed out to terrorists.

**MALTA. 2 May—Labour Dispute.** The Admiralty issued a statement announcing that the Malta General Workers' Union had refused the Service department's latest offer of a cost of living bonus of thirty shillings a week plus a lump sum of £14 6s. od. for all male employees who had been employed between 1 January and 1 April 1952.

**13 May—**The Admiralty announced that as a result of the rejection of their offer of 2 May by the Malta General Workers' Union, the service departments had decided to increase the cost-of-living bonus of adult male employees to 30s. a week with effect from 1 April 1952. The offer of a lump sum of £14 6s. od. in addition would remain open for the present.

**NETHERLANDS. 20 May—Great Britain.** It was announced that a new trade agreement had been concluded with Britain providing for an increase in British exports to Holland.

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 6 May—Relations with E.D.C.** The North Atlantic Council approved unanimously a draft protocol which extended to members of the European Defence Community the guarantees of help in the event of attack contained in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, in return for similar guarantees by E.D.C. members to members of N.A.T.O. The guarantees extended to the geographical limits covered by the North Atlantic Treaty as defined in Article 6 of the text and to the German Federal Republic.

The Council established the principle of permanent contacts between the secretariats of N.A.T.O. and the E.D.C., and decided that consultations with the commissariat of the E.D.C. would be held whenever requested by a member country.

**PAKISTAN. 18 May—Religious Riot.** The police in Karachi used tear gas to disperse a mob of more than 2,000 who tried to break up the annual meeting of the Karachi Ahmadiya Association, a Muslim sect.



About thirty people and five policemen were injured, and the mob set on fire various shops belonging to the Ahmadiya community.

**PERSIA. 19 May—Elections.** Dr Moussadek, Prime Minister, ordered the suspension of elections throughout the country pending his return from attending the Hague Court hearing of the oil dispute.

**21 May**—In his report to the Senate which was read by Mr Kazemi, his deputy, Dr Moussadek admitted that the Government's efforts to sell oil abroad had failed, resulting in a complete standstill of the oil industry.

**SOUTH AFRICA. 1 May**—Following the arrival of police reinforcements in Cape Town in the preceding few days, the Minister of Justice, Mr Swart, told the Assembly that the reinforcements had been sent at the suggestion of the police themselves. The police had given him 'adequate' reasons for the move, but he was not prepared to say what they were.

**2 May**—The Speaker of the House of Assembly ruled against the point of order raised on 30 April by Mr Strauss, leader of the Opposition, who had maintained that the South Africa Act required the High Court of Parliament Bill to be passed by a joint sitting of both Houses.

**Natal.** Leaders of the United Front (the United Party, the Labour Party, and the Torch Commando) in Natal approved a resolution calling for a national convention of South Africa's four provinces to reaffirm the Union's constitution and to entrench and protect the basic principles of the South Africa Act.

**5 May**—Proposing the second reading of the High Court of Parliament Bill, Dr Dönges, Minister of the Interior, emphasized that the jurisdiction of the proposed court of Parliament would be limited to cases where the jurisdiction and prestige of Parliament were challenged, and he pointed out that since 1931 there had been only two such cases—in 1937 and the issue now facing them. Mr Strauss, leader of the Opposition, said the Bill was invalid and would be tested in the courts, and he challenged the Prime Minister to say what he would do if the courts ruled that it was invalid.

**7 May**—Dr Malan, Prime Minister, rejected in the House a suggestion made by Dr Steyn, the Free State leader of the United Party, that the Government should seek a compromise between the parties and with the Cape coloured people themselves. He said it was impossible to treat with the coloured people because they had no representative organization. But the Government was prepared to talk with the right wing of the Opposition, who seemed to be ready to accept the principle of *apartheid*.

**8 May**—The Government obtained a second reading of the High Court of Parliament Bill by 79 votes to 65.

**13 May—British Protectorates.** Reviewing his policy in the Senate, Dr Malan, Prime Minister, said that the negotiations for the transfer of the protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Swaziland could not go on indefinitely, as South Africa could not tolerate a position in

**South Africa (continued)**

which territories within its borders were controlled by another country. He proposed asking for a mandate at the next General Election to seek a petition of both Houses of Parliament asking for transfer of the territories. It was the only way progress could be made.

**Native Representation.** Dr Malan said he no longer proposed to seek the abolition of the existing system of native representation whereby natives elected three special representatives (Europeans) to the House of Assembly. He said the demand for abolition of the system was no longer so insistent, and the Suppression of Communism Act would end the tendency for natives to elect declared Communists.

**14 May—British Protectorates.** Asked in the Senate what would happen if Britain rejected the request for transfer of the territories, Dr Malan recalled a statement by Field-Marshal Smuts that the inhabitants of those territories were more dependent on South Africa than South Africa on them, and the economic consequences for them if they were treated as inhabitants of foreign African territories would be serious.

**Anti-Communist Measures.** The Minister of Justice served notice on certain persons (believed to number about twenty) on the list of Communists drawn up under the Suppression of Communism Act, requiring them, under the Act, to resign from all organizations and to restrict their movements to the provinces in which they were domiciled. The notices also forbade acceptance of fresh office in any organization or attendance at any except religious or social gatherings.

**15 May—High Court of Parliament Bill.** The Bill passed its third reading in the Assembly by 82 votes to 57.

**19 May—High Court of Parliament Bill.** The President of the Senate ruled that the Bill could be debated in the Senate without recourse to the procedure of a joint session of both Houses laid down in the entrenched clauses of the South Africa Act. The Bill was read a first time.

**Suppression of Communism.** Mr Sachs, General Secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, was ordered to resign his post under the Suppression of Communism Act.

**20 May—**Mr Swart, the Minister of Justice, ordered three more European trade union leaders, named as Communists, to resign their posts.

Senator Nicholls, leader of the Opposition in the Senate, declared during the Senate debate on the second reading of the High Court of Parliament Bill: 'If the Government secedes from its moral and constitutional obligations, Natal will not be with it. Natal would have an undoubted constitutional right to refuse complicity in an act of repudiation of obligations, and, in saving herself, Natal might save South Africa.' He also declared that if the Bill became law elections could be dispensed with and a dictatorship established by the simple process of passing an Enabling Act giving the Government complete authority.

**21 May—**The Assembly adopted by 77 votes to 55 the report of the Select Committee which found Mr Kahn, one of the Natives' representatives in Parliament, and Mr Carneson, Natives' representative in the

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Cape Provincial Council, to be Communists as defined in the Suppression of Communists Act.

The Speaker ruled out of order a motion for the adjournment moved by Mr Hepple (Labour) on the 'tyrannical action of the Minister of Justice, with the approval of the Minister of Labour, in ordering prominent trade union officials to resign their office . . . which action is calculated to disorganize and disrupt the trade union movement and destroy at one blow the free trade union movement of the workers of South Africa'.

**Bechuanaland.** Keaboka Kgamane, leader of the recent Bamangwato tribe delegation to London, resigned his position as senior representative of the tribe.

**SPAIN. 4 May—Church and State.** It was learned that the Bulletin of the Seville Diocese had published on 30 April a pastoral letter from the Archbishop of Seville, Cardinal Segura, charging the Government with a 'grave abuse of the public power'. He had denounced the censorship and *Arriba*, the official newspaper of the Falangist Party, for interfering in questions affecting 'the authority and freedom of the Church', mentioning three specific occasions when the press and radio had been forbidden to reproduce his instructions to the faithful or had been ordered to comment on them unfavourably. In the most recent instance *Arriba* contradicted the Cardinal's accusation that the authorities were lax in 'resisting the advance of Protestantism in Spain'. The Cardinal warned his flock that it was dangerous for them to read a newspaper which propagated pernicious errors of judgement.

**8 May—Iraq.** Abdul Illah, Regent of Iraq, arrived on a visit to Spain. Nuri Es Said, the Iraqi Prime Minister, was one of the Regent's escorts.

**16 May—Gen. Franco** announced at the opening of Parliament that food rationing would be abolished on 1 June. He said this was the result of a marked improvement in Spain's economic position which would also hasten the removal of trade restrictions.

On foreign affairs Gen. Franco said that 'our strategic position between two seas' had necessitated the strengthening of ties with Portugal by the Iberian Pact and the reinforcement of friendship with the Arab nations bordering the Mediterranean. It had also caused Spain to accept U.S. proposals to continue talks with Spanish technicians 'with a view to an agreement in the general area of mutual security' which would imply military and economic assistance without any infringement of national security. He emphasized that there was no question of Spain 'moving with time towards the inorganic democracy as it is interpreted by others, because the national movement arose precisely to combat the causes of our weakness and our decadence. The greatest negation of democracy would be to deny us the right to follow our path'.

**18 May—The Government** announced the decontrolling of wool.

**19 May—Yemen.** A treaty of friendship between Spain and the Yemen was signed at the Spanish Embassy in Cairo. It provided for the establishment of diplomatic and cultural relations between the two countries.

**Spain (continued)**

**21 May**—Recommendation for admission of Spain to Unesco (see *United Nations, Economic and Social Council*).

**SUDAN. 9 May—Communism.** The Legislative Assembly gave a second reading to the Unlawful Associations Ordinance (1924) Amendment Bill which banned the affiliation of any Sudanese organization to either the World Federation of Trade Unions or the World Peace Council. Sir James Robertson, Civil Secretary, said there were clear signs that international Communism was showing an interest in the Sudan.

**12 May**—Eleven members of the Sudan Workers' Federation were each sentenced to two years' imprisonment for abetting an illegal strike (on 28 April).

**18 May**—It was announced that Saiyid Sir Abd ur-Rahman al-Mahdi Pasha, leader of the independence movement in the Sudan, had accepted an invitation of the Egyptian Prime Minister to send a delegation to Egypt to explain the views of the Sudan independence movement.

**19 May—United States.** Mr Hoskins, head of the Middle East section of the U.S. State Department, arrived in Khartoum for discussions with Sudanese political and religious leaders.

**TIBET. 4 May**—According to reports reaching Kalimpong, the Chinese had recently put their troops on the alert after a clash with Tibetans who had demonstrated outside the house of the Tibetan Cabinet Minister who signed the Sino-Tibetan treaty. The demonstrators were reported to have demanded that the Chinese be removed from Tibet.

**TRIESTE FREE TERRITORY. 15 May**—The Yugoslav Military Government in Zone B announced new measures radically modifying the administration of the zone and linking it more closely with Yugoslavia. The zonal assembly, originally designed to form the basis of the future assembly of the Free Territory as stipulated by the peace treaty, was abolished, and the Zone was split into two districts—Capodistria and Buie—to be linked respectively with the Yugoslav federal republics of Slovenia and Croatia each of whom would appoint a political adviser to administer the districts. A third political adviser, appointed in Belgrade to assist the Zone Commander, would be responsible for public safety, administration of justice, control of aliens, and matters arising 'out of the commander's international mandate'.

**TUNISIA. 6 May**—M. Chenik, the former Prime Minister, and three of his Ministers were released from detention on the island of Djerba and brought back to Tunis by aircraft. Gen. Saadullah, former Minister of Agriculture, was also released from house arrest in Tunis. They were, however, forbidden to enter the capital and the town of Carthage, and they were asked to refrain from political activity for the time being.

**7 May**—M. Habib Bourguiba, leader of the Neo Destour Party, and

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three other of its leaders were removed from detention in the far south to more comfortable quarters on Djerba.

**12 May**—A recrudescence of violence and terrorism over the preceding few days led Gen. Garbey, French commander in Tunis, to lengthen the curfew in Tunis and La Goulette.

**13 May**—A bomb exploded in the central post office in Tunis killing five persons and injuring eleven.

Gen. Garbey announced a further tightening of security measures, including an extension of the curfew to all suburbs of Tunis and a ban on road traffic during curfew hours throughout the administrative region of Tunis.

**14 May**—Another bomb exploded in Tunis, in the Department of Public Works, injuring three people.

The Bey gave an audience to M. de Hautecloque, Resident-General, and Gen. Garbey.

M. Pinay on Tunisia (*see France*).

M. de Hautecloque emphasized in a statement to the press the non-discriminatory character of the terrorist acts and said they were doubtless intended as acts of provocation. They were not the work of the population but of a restricted group which 'wants blood in order to rouse a part of world opinion'.

**15 May**—There were two more explosions in Tunis and several acts of sabotage were reported.

The Bey issued an appeal to the Tunisian people to help in restoring law and order and he firmly condemned the latest acts of terrorism.

**16 May**—M. Temple, French Minister for Ex-Service Men, arrived in Tunis on a courtesy visit and to take part in ex-servicemen's functions.

**17 May**—M. Temple accompanied by the Resident-General, had an audience with the Bey.

U.S. attitude on Tunisia (*see France*).

**18 May**—The Resident-General announced that the curfew would be lifted for the month of Ramadan (beginning on 25 May).

A bomb exploded in Sfax central post office but hurt no one. On the Gafsa-Gabes road a car was fired on and two of its occupants injured.

**19 May**—A bomb exploded in Tunis causing material damage.

**20 May**—Ricks of wheat were set on fire by terrorists at La Sebbah, and an attempt was made to fire a field of rye at Tebourba.

**TURKEY. 2 May**—Statement on Greco-Turkish talks (*see Greece*).

**11 May**—Field-Marshal Montgomery arrived in Turkey on a four-day visit.

## UNITED NATIONS

### Commission for Germany

**9 May**—It was learned that the U.N. Commission to investigate conditions for free elections in Germany had reported to the Secretary-General that as it had been unable to establish contact with the authorities in the Soviet Zone there was little prospect at present of its task being accomplished.

### United Nations (continued) Economic and Social Council

**11 May**—A World Economic Report was published which estimated a total world increase of 12 per cent in the industrial production of 1951 over that of 1950. Estimates of increases in individual countries included the following: Japan, nearly 40 per cent; east and west Germany, both over 20 per cent; U.S.S.R. (from official Soviet figures) 16 per cent; France and Belgium, over 12 per cent; United States, 11 per cent; United Kingdom, 3 per cent.

**21 May**—**Spain.** The Council recommended by 12 votes to 5, with Sweden abstaining, the admission of Spain to Unesco. Soviet Russia opposed.

### Narcotics Commission

**5 May**—**China.** The U.S. delegate, Mr Anslinger, asserted in the Commission that the Peking Chinese Government were increasing illicit traffic in opium and heroin, and he quoted amounts of drugs seized in Singapore, Siam, Hong Kong, and Burma, most of which had been smuggled from China. He also quoted from a report dated 10 March from Gen. Ridgway's H.Q. which said: 'Investigations of arrests and seizures in Japan in 1951 proved conclusively that the Communists are smuggling heroin from China to Japan and using the proceeds to finance party activities and obtain strategic materials for China.' The Nationalist Chinese delegate said that the Communist regime had totally reversed the policy of the Nationalist Government which had reduced opium production to a minimum.

**7 May**—(Commenting on the above evidence, a report from Hong Kong said that there had been no evidence of drug traffic coming from the Chinese mainland since one case of opium seizure soon after the Communist occupation of Canton).

**UNITED STATES. 1 May**—**Steel Dispute.** The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal rejected an application by the steel companies to prevent the Administration from granting wage increases to workers in the seized steel mills. Mr Sawyer, Secretary of Commerce, announced, however, that he had no plan to grant such a wage increase immediately. He urged Congress to enact some measure to meet the existing situation which he said threatened the country's whole economic and social life, and he appealed to both owners and unions to resume negotiations.

**Oil Strike.** The Government banned oil and petrol exports (except from California, Oregon, and Washington) to all countries except Canada because of the strike of oil workers.

**Travel Ban.** The State Department banned all travel to Communist countries by U.S. citizens without specific permission, because of the 'risks of travel' in those countries.

**2 May**—**Steel Dispute.** The President of the Steelworkers' Union called off the strike in response to President Truman's appeal. He also agreed to meet the presidents of six of the largest steel companies at the White House on the following day.

Both the steel companies and the administration appealed directly to the Supreme Court for a decision on the legality of the Government's seizure of the mills.

**3 May**—The Supreme Court agreed to review Judge Pine's ruling in the district court. It forbade the Government to make any changes in wages or working conditions in the industry pending disposal of the case, and it extended the stay of the district court's order requiring the Government to return the steel works to their owners.

**4 May**—The President of the Steelworkers' Union announced the breakdown of the White House negotiations.

**5 May—Korea.** Opposing a House spending limitation before the Senate military appropriations sub-committee, Gen. Collins, Army Chief of Staff, declared that if the fighting in Korea continued, or if U.S. troops in Europe were attacked, 'we should have no reserves of some of the most important types of ammunition, and our front-line troops would have to limit their ammunition expenditure to what came off our production lines'. The limitation was also opposed by Gen. Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff and by Gen. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who declared that the Soviet Union was building towards a peak of military strength which would make 'the general period of 1954 the most dangerous to United States security'.

**6 May—Oil Workers' Strike.** The Wage Stabilization Board sent a message to the 90,000 oil workers on strike asking them to end the strike immediately and resume negotiations with the employers with the aid of the Federal mediation and conciliation service. Air lines reduced flights in response to a Government order to save 30 per cent of fuel.

**Mutual Security Programme.** The House Foreign Affairs Committee voted to reduce by \$1,010,900,000 the \$7,900 m. requested by the Administration for the Mutual Security Programme. The entire cut was made in items for military assistance and defence support for Europe which were reduced by 20 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

**7 May—Korea.** President Truman declared that the United States fully supported the U.N. proposals for an armistice (*see Korea*), and he emphasized in particular that the United Nations would not accept forced repatriation of prisoners.

**Mutual Security Bill.** The House Foreign Affairs Committee approved unanimously a \$6,901.1 m. Mutual Security Bill which specified that at least \$25 m. from European funds should go to Spain (in addition to \$1 m. already earmarked for Spain but unspent). The Bill also authorized the transfer of \$1,000 m. worth of domestic military equipment to foreign nations, and of the \$3,316 m. for military aid it earmarked \$1,000 m. to be used exclusively for 'offshore procurement'.

**Steel Dispute.** The Government lifted the ban on the movement of steel from warehouses.

**8 May—Foreign Aid.** President Truman sharply criticized Congress at his press conference for its recommendations to reduce the defence and mutual aid programmes.

The text was published of a telegram sent by Gen. Eisenhower to Senator Connally, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Com-

**United States (continued)**

mittee, giving a warning that the committee's recommendation for a \$1,000 m. reduction in the aid programme would be 'seriously felt' in the defence of Europe, as he considered the programme to have been correctly worked out and to be on an austerity basis.

**Atomic Weapons.** Mr Pace, Secretary of the Army, gave in New York a full description of the atomic gun being developed by the U.S. Army and said that soldiers were already being trained to use it.

**Great Britain and U.S. Tariffs.** The State Department sent a reply to the British memorandum published on 18 April which had expressed concern at the increasing number of applications for relief under the Trade Agreement Extension Act of 1951. The U.S. reply said that the State Department had always taken the position that modifications of duty concessions could only be made in cases of genuinely serious injury, and it was in complete accord with the U.K. Government that obligations in Article 19 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade should be scrupulously observed and that Article 19 should not be invoked merely because a concession resulted in more vigorous competition from imports. Furthermore the State Department considered that any modifications made as a result of escape clause investigations should be kept under constant review, and a system of periodic investigation and report by the Tariff Commission was accordingly being established. In conclusion, the memorandum stated that the U.S. Government's attitude towards the basic principles of lowering international trade remained unchanged and that co-operative action among free nations to reduce trade barriers was essential to provide a strong economic basis for mutual security and progress.

**11 May—Mutual Security Programme.** The House Foreign Affairs Committee issued a report explaining its reasons for approving the reduction of over \$1,000 m. in the programme and for its twenty-six major amendments to the Bill. The report said that on the basis of military evidence the Committee had concluded that there had been no lessening of the danger of Soviet aggression which would justify relaxation of the U.S. defence effort. In regard to morale in Europe it said: 'While no one can say with certainty that the people of Europe will fight effectively if the Soviet attacks, the determination to do so seems to grow rapidly as the ability to resist aggression develops.'

**Austria.** Dr Figl, the Austrian Chancellor, arrived in the United States for a two-week visit. He rejected any idea of a separate Austrian peace treaty with any of the Powers because he said that would mean cutting the country in two.

**13 May—Western Note to Russia on Germany (see U.S.S.R.).**

Yugoslav memorandum on Trieste (see Yugoslavia).

**14 May—Berlin.** In reply to questions concerning Russian restrictions on allied patrols on the Berlin-Helmstedt autobahn, Mr Acheson, Secretary of State, said: 'I think it is well understood . . . that we are determined to maintain our position in Berlin and to assist and protect the interests of the people of Berlin in the western zone'.

**Steel Dispute.** At its convention in Philadelphia, the Steelworkers'

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Union voted to start a new strike if the industry failed to grant a prompt and satisfactory wage increase.

**Mutual Security Programme.** The Senate Armed Services Committee defeated by 7 votes to 6 a proposal to cut a further \$400 m. from the Mutual Security Programme.

15 May—Release of Caribbean bases to Britain (*see Great Britain*).

16 May—Speaking at a dinner in celebration of Armed Services Day, Mr Acheson, Secretary of State, emphasized that the United States could not escape its world responsibilities and could no longer be 'sporadic and aloof'. 'One basic fact which stands out,' he said '... is that no combination of Powers which does not include the United States is adequate to deal with Soviet power and Soviet ambitions. . . It is also true that the United States acting alone could not prevent further dangerous accession of territory and peoples by the Soviet power.' This meant, he went on, that the United States must join with other free nations to build a common defence and in doing so must 'develop policies and programmes which are broader than our own immediate national interests. . . We cannot dictate; we cannot dominate'.

**Great Britain.** Mr Gaitskell, former British Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggested in a speech at Chicago that a new international conference, on the lines of Bretton Woods, should be held to consider three main problems: the continuing lack of balance between the dollar area and the rest of the world; the maintenance of full employment as defence contracts fell off; and the need for large-scale investment in under-developed countries.

17 May—U.S. attitude on Tunisia (*see France*).

21 May—**Australia.** Mr Menzies, Australian Prime Minister, left Washington for New York after having had discussions with Mr Acheson and Mr Lovell, Secretary of Defence, on the creation of a Pacific defence council.

**Korea.** Gen. Ridgway, the retiring American Supreme Commander in the Far East and Supreme Commander-designate in Europe, told the press in Washington that the Communists had improved their position since the beginning of the truce talks and that there had been an extensive military build-up in Soviet-dominated territory in the Far East within the last twelve months.

**Trade Policy.** Mr Acheson made a statement to the press on U.S. trade policy. He emphasized that international trade added to the economic strength upon which common defence was based and said that the United States had three choices: to cut exports, which would have a serious effect on U.S. economy and create unemployment; to continue indefinitely to make gifts of dollars which meant that America would never be paid for its exports and the American taxpayer would make up the difference; or to allow other countries to sell their exports in America so as to earn the dollars they needed to pay the United States. Mr Acheson said the third was by far the best solution and countries should not be hampered in their efforts to sell their products in America.

**U.S.S.R. 1 May**—The usual May Day parade took place in Red Square, Moscow, in the presence of Marshal Stalin. Marshal Govorov, who took the salute from the Moscow garrison troops, made a speech in which he accused the U.S. and English 'aggressors' of pursuing an arms race and of seeking to revive German imperialism in the west and Japanese in the east.

**9 May—Church Peace Appeal.** A conference of all churches in Russia met at Zagorsk to draw up a peace appeal to religious people throughout the world.

**Austria.** Notes were received from Britain, France, and the United States requesting a reply to their proposal of 13 March for an abbreviated Austrian peace treaty.

**13 May—Germany: Western Note.** Replying in identical terms to the Soviet Note of 9 April, the British, French, and United States Governments declared that it remained their policy to seek to achieve, on terms ensuring 'unity with freedom and peace with security the unity of Germany, the election of a free all-German Government, and the conclusion of a peace treaty with that Government', and that they were ready to begin negotiations on these issues with the Soviet Government as soon as it was clear that the Soviet Government intended avoiding 'the fruitless discussions of the past'. They emphasized, however, that it was necessary first to reach 'a clear understanding upon the scope of the negotiations and upon the fundamental problems to be examined'. Proper preparation was essential.

The Note then referred to the Soviet Government's stipulation in its latest Note that Germany must not be included 'into one or another grouping of Powers directed against any peace-loving State'. They declared that Germany's proposed membership of the United Nations made any such provision unnecessary, and said that in any case they could not accept any provisions forbidding Germany to enter into association with other States 'which one of the signatories of the peace treaty might arbitrarily choose to regard as "directed against any peace-loving State"'. They could not admit that 'Germany should be denied the basic right of a free and equal nation to associate itself with other nations for peaceful purposes', and they would not be deflected from their policy of support for a peaceful European community which would include the German Federal Republic. Germany was divided because Europe was divided, and such a policy of European unity could not threaten the Soviet Union or any country wishing to maintain peace. The three Powers denied all responsibility for the failure to extend this co-operation and would examine with sincerity any suggestions designed to reduce tension and to heal divisions.

The Note then stated that a German peace treaty could be worked out only if there were an all-German Government formed as a result of free elections and able to participate in the treaty discussions in full freedom. It asked specifically whether the Soviet Union agreed that such an all-German Government should have the necessary freedom of action and powers of Government, or whether it considered it should be under four-Power control until after the conclusion of a peace treaty.

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In regard to free elections, the three Powers denied the Soviet contention that an inquiry throughout Germany by a United Nations commission would be contrary to Article 107 of the U.N. Charter, and proposed: (1) That an impartial commission should immediately determine whether the necessary conditions for free elections existed in all parts of Germany, and, if not, that it should recommend to the four Occupying Powers what steps should be taken to create such conditions. The four Powers should give the necessary facilities for the investigation: the three western Powers had already stated their willingness to do so. (2) As the quickest and most practical course, the U.N. Commission, already available, should be used for the purpose. (3) In spite of their strong preference for using the U.N. Commission, the three Powers would be ready to consider any practical and precise Soviet proposals for an impartial commission on the one condition that they would be likely to promote early free elections. (4) As soon as the impartial commission's report should be ready, the four Powers would meet to consider (a) the early holding of free elections throughout Germany including the creation where necessary of appropriate conditions; (b) the assurances to be given by the four Powers that the all-German Government, formed as the result of the free elections, should have the necessary freedom of action during the period before the signing of the peace treaty.

**14 May**—U.K.—Soviet cured herring contract (*see Great Britain*).

**16 May**—Trade contract with Britain (*see Great Britain*).

**YEMEN. 19 May**—Treaty of friendship with Spain (*see Spain*).

**YUGOSLAVIA. 9 May—Trieste.** Tripartite agreement on Zone A and Yugoslav statement (*see Great Britain*).

Italian reaction to agreement on Trieste (*see Italy*).

**11 May—Trieste.** Speaking at Zrenjanin, Marshal Tito rejected the London agreement on Trieste which he condemned as a 'crude violation of the Italian peace treaty', a 'shameful injustice', and an 'ambuscade against our country'. He reserved the right to 'undertake measures which will not prejudice final solution but which are necessary to protect the interests of Yugoslavia'. He denied that the agreement was not prejudicial to a final solution, and to support his contention quoted Signor De Gasperi's words: 'We stand firmly on Trieste soil, Trieste is only the beginning.' He went on to accuse the Vatican of being the chief instigators of an anti-Yugoslav policy in Italy, and he warned Roman Catholic priests in Yugoslavia that unless they protected Yugoslav interests they would be the agents of a foreign country. Marshal Tito made it clear that he still stood by the latest Yugoslav proposal for the establishment of a free territory of Trieste.

**12 May**—Four reporters from the Communist paper, *Borba*, were sentenced in Belgrade to terms of hard labour ranging from five to seven and a half years for pro-Cominform activity. A medical student was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for the same offence.

**13 May—Trieste.** A Yugoslav memorandum addressed to the British

**Yugoslavia (continued)**

and U.S. Governments rejected the London agreement on Trieste as contrary to the Italian peace treaty and a violation of Yugoslav rights. It declared that the transfer of the administration of Zone A should not have been made without Yugoslav agreement and that, by completely upsetting the balance which the peace treaty intended to create as regards the City of Trieste and Zone A, the agreement was 'in complete contradiction to the spirit and letter and the intentions expressed in the instruments entrusting the mandate'.

The memorandum further complained that as a result of the agreement 'a legally unfounded union' of the territory with Italy would be established, thus seriously impairing Yugoslav interests; Italy would not only directly influence staff policy but would have those officers dependent on her; the inhabitants of the zone would be limited and prevented from exercising public functions; and that the way was open to further adaptation of the zonal administration to meet Italian wishes, without previous international agreement. The memorandum also protested against the decision to confirm all economic and financial agreements between Italy and Zone A and said that the Allied Military Government had transgressed its powers in making the agreements, for Trieste had thereby been unilaterally subjected to Italian economic influence. The Yugoslav Government was 'especially concerned' at the expressed intention to give greater practical recognition to the predominantly Italian character of Zone A: it declared this to be an abandonment of the principle of national equality which would invite 'still greater and more open denials of the rights of Slovenes'. Finally, the memorandum asserted that, though the formal right of control of the territory was reserved to the Zone Commander, his hands were tied by the general intent of the conference's decisions and by the fact that the whole administrative apparatus depended on the Italian Government.

**15 May**—Announcement of new administrative arrangements for Trieste Zone B (*see Trieste*).

**20 May—Italy: Trieste.** A Note was received from the Italian Government protesting against 'multiple and successive' Yugoslav violations of the *status quo* in Zone B of the Trieste Free Territory. Referring to the Yugoslav Note of 11 April (*see 13 April*) it said that it could only be interpreted as a vain attempt to conceal the attitude of the Yugoslav authorities in Zone B, and it alleged that since the beginning of the Yugoslav administration some 6,500 natives of the Zone had been 'forced to seek refuge in Zone A'. The Note concluded with a warning of the grave consequences to relations between the two countries which would result if Yugoslavia persisted in such a policy and failed to adopt measures to re-establish the administration of Zone B within a legal framework.

Belgrade Radio reported that the Foreign Ministry had returned the Italian Note because it contained 'offensive expressions not customary in normal diplomatic relations'.